

THE FRENCH ADMINISTRATION OF INDO-CHINA

»th he and the Annamites were genuinely moved by his meridional jquence. Despite certain accomplishments in the labour and educa-
mal fields, Sarraut sailed away, and little was ever heard thereafter those liberal projects, even after he had become Minister of the
>Ionies. Like the Girondists, he was the first to recoil before the
cesses of a nationalism which he had stimulated. As a result, both
mamite deception and nationalism grew apace. Maurice Long came to Indo-China in 1920,
qualified by a long
rliamentary career and a special knowledge of Morocco. The
blems which he had to meet were mainly political and financial,
rise in the cost of living and the decline in the franc were creating
dgetary trouble in Indo-China. This necessitated a readjustment of
ttctionaries' salaries, involving bank operations for which Long was
/erely criticized both in the colony and in Paris. His greatest success
is the raising of a loan for the first time within the colony itself—the
idication of Indo-China's claim to economic self-sufficiency. The
rwing prosperity of the War years, and the isolation which the War
d forced on Indo-China, created a psychology of complacency and
separatist movement on the part of colonials as well as the natives.
Long was the last Governor-General to experience a period of
litical peace. None of the sporadic conspiracies that had characterized
* pre-War years, and which were to flourish in the next decade,
mbled his term of office. The importance of the Far East, as heralded
the Washington Conference of 1922, was already making the French
predate their "balcony on the Pacific." The Marseille Exposition
1922 reaffirmed in French minds the War lesson

of the colonies' importance as sources of supplies and manpower. When the Emperor Minh Dinh left his son in France to be educated, it was a public demonstration of Annamite loyalty in Metropolitan eyes. Like all his predecessors, Long reorganized the administration. His policy had deceptive earmarks of liberalism, but he did not solve the problem of native officialdom which Sarraut himself had vividly brought to the fore. By creating what was termed *cadres latéraux* Annamites were admitted to offices parallel to the French bureaux in qualifications and in work, but not in salaries and promotion. This compromise was only a stop-gap that failed to satisfy native ambitions. It was also an unnecessary and expensive duplication of office. More successful were his reforms of native representation—another project inherited from Sarraut. In Cambodia, China, native political organizations, as well as the general standard of living, had evolved more